Volleyball opens beats Salem

By James Egan

The 1981-82 Women's Volleyball team experienced the finest season in the squad's short seven-year history. The year included a 31-8 record, the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) Massachusetts Division III championship, and a trip to the AIAW Eastern Regionals held at West Point, New York, where the team finished fifth.

In spite of this showing, the squad suffered some losses due to graduation that it will have to overcome. The departure of Linda Plato will hurt the most. According to Engineers' head coach Dave Castanon, Plato was a key player, whose role was crucial to the team's success.

Another problem facing Castanon's crew is the dissolution of the AIAW and transfer of control over women's volleyball to the NCAA. It will be more difficult for the team to qualify for postseason competition. Instead of participating in regional elimination tournaments, potential participants in the national tournament will have to receive bids from the NCAA.

In spite of the obstacles, Castanon feels confident about the season's outlook. A nucleus of eleven lettermen is expected to return. They include an ample crop of promising freshman prospects who are available for the coach to work with.

The team opened its season Wednesday night, defeating Salem State 3-1. This weekend the squad travels to Salem State for a Christmas tournament. The Engineers' first tournament will have to receive bids from the NCAA.

Baseball — Enjoying a fine fall season, the baseball team upped its record to 3-0 with a 3-0 blanking of the Suffolk Rams last week.

Men's Cross Country — Led by new head coach Halston Taylor, the men's cross country team finished second in the Engineers Cup last Saturday, losing to host RPI and downing WPI. MIT's Bob Wulmsley '84 was the individual winner, covering the five-mile course in 26:14. Paul Newton '83 was second at 26:36.

Women's Cross Country — In its second year of varsity competition, the women's cross country team finished third of five teams participating in the Stonehill invitational last Saturday, taking both Stonehill and Simmons. Sarah de Leon '85 placed seventh overall to lead the Engineers.

Field Hockey — With Mary Ellen Martin taking over the reins as coach, the field hockey team began the season with two wins — a 4-0 shutout of Western New England last Saturday, losing to host RPI and downing WPI. MIT Student Center

John English scores against Nichols in varsity soccer action last Saturday.

What is sports news?

By Martin Dickau

With the fall sports season upon us, the sports desk here at The Tech gets pretty busy at times. When I read the sports page(s), I always feel a sense of regret. MIT fields teams in more sports than any other college in the country, yet rarely does more than one or two articles about specific teams appear in an issue. Someone recently asked me why we never seem to have any soccer. Isn't there more to the MIT sports scene than football, soccer, or deck, tennis, and an occasional rummy column?

My answer can only be, “Of course!” For instance, at this writing, the field hockey, baseball, water polo, and golf teams are all undefeated. Today I learned that the golf team has had winning seasons for the last ten years. And all of this says absolutely nothing about intramural sports. So many people participate in intramurals that it seems ludicrous that coverage of them is limited to a list of standings whenever there is no other sports copy to fill the pages.

Once, a helpful person spent half an hour trying to tell me that the only way to do justice to all of the teams is to assign a reporter to each one. Of course, the teams outnumber available reporters two and a half to one, and that ratio tends to increase as the semester wears on. Asking team managers or student assistants to call in results doesn’t help either.

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